

NOTES FROM SOUTH SEPTEMBER 2015 MEETING

Rebecca Muncey, Engagement Officer for the Clinical Commissioning Group gave an overview of engagement opportunities and committee member vacancies at the CCG. For further information, please contact Rebecca on rebecca.muncey@nhs.net.

1. Voluntary Action Islington presentation on services for Islington residents

Phil Boye-Anawomah, Senior Projects Officer of Voluntary Action Islington (VAI) outlined the services that exist to support volunteering within the borough. These include support for those wanting to set up a charity or community interest group, those who have already set up such a group but need guidance and those wanting to volunteer (VAI runs a drop-in service on Tuesdays and Thursdays at their offices at 200a Pentonviller Road, London N1 9JP between 10am and 4pm).

VAI's directory of local community organisations was also mentioned; this resource is available online and can help you find local organisations offering services such as mindfulness meditation; support into work for people with Mental Health issues; social groups etc.

For more information on local volunteering opportunities please see www.vai.org.uk or call 020 7832 5800.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

- VAI have a range of volunteering opportunities to suit people's interests and time commitments including oral history and health.

2. Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) presentation on achievements so far and commissioning intentions for the forthcoming year

Paul Sinden, Director of Commissioning for the CCG and Lizzie Stimson, Engagement Lead for CCG.

Lizzie outlines the work that has been done around engagement and consultation with local population, especially with communities who tend not to have a 'voice'. Feedback from engagement and consultation will help to inform future commissioning of services.

Paul looks at the CCG's challenges, achievements and future plans. Areas that were mentioned included:

- Integrated care – a closer relationship between healthcare and social care – is a priority and the CCG is working closely with Islington council and voluntary organisations within the borough.
- the proposed iHubs, which will deliver extended hours appointments are being funded by government's GP Access Challenge fund. In Islington there will be three hubs, one in each locality:
[Andover for North Locality; Angel Medical Centre for South Locality; and Islington Central for Central Locality]

iHubs are being trialled for 9-12 months and are networks of practices that will have integrated services e.g. community nurses, navigators etc.

- Better use of technology to book appointments online and more efficient sharing of patient data so that patients do not have to repeat their symptoms etc to the different teams they might come into contact with.
- Joint commissioning of GP contracts with NHS England going forward. Tapping into local GP knowledge is important to make services more efficient, so this approach will have benefit of local insight from local GPs while avoiding any conflict of interest.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

- There was a query about whether the overall budget for 2015/16 is less or more than the previous year; it is more [+1.5%] but there has also been an increase in the population.
- A concern was raised about what services might be lost but for now efficiencies can be made by streamlining existing services, returning some hospital services e.g. ambulatory services and new specialist mental health service to community and primary care meaning that fewer people need to stay in hospital.
- The CCG wants to have mental health professionals based in GP practices so that GPs are able to quickly refer patients and/or include mental health professionals in appointments.
- A query was raised about surgeries that had closed; Mitchison road was going to close but has been given to AT Medics, so patients will be able to continue to be seen by GPs and other healthcare professionals there.

EXTRA INFORMATION

We are looking for patient chairs! If you are interested in being one of a pool of patient chairs and interested in helping the PPG meetings in this way, and would like to find out more, please get in touch with Naomi Peck (naomi.peck@vai.org.uk; 020 7832 5800) or Rebecca Muncey (rebecca.muncey@nhs.net)